

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A gum base comprising:
an elastomer; and
~~at least~~ about 0.02% to about 40% by weight structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules.

Claim 2 (original): The gum base of Claim 1 wherein the base is wax-free.

Claim 3 (original): The gum base of Claim 1 wherein the base is non-tacky.

Claim 4 (original): The gum base of Claim 1 wherein the base is a bubble gum-type base.

Claim 5 (original): The gum base of claim 1 including at least one resin.

Claim 6 (original): The gum base of Claim 1 including at least one softener chosen from the group consisting of: tallow; hydrogenated tallow; hydrogenated and partially hydrogenated vegetable oils; cocoa butter; glycerol monostearate; glycerol triacetate; and lecithin.

Claim 7 (canceled):

Claim 8 (original): The gum base of Claim 1 wherein structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules are salatrim.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A chewing gum formulation comprising:
an insoluble gum base;
a water soluble portion;
a flavor; and
~~at least~~ about 0.01% to about 10% by weight structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules.

Claim 10 (original): The chewing gum formulation of Claim 9 including at least one softener chosen from the group consisting of: tallow; hydrogenated tallow; hydrogenated and partially hydrogenated vegetable oils; cocoa butter; glycerol monostearate; glycerol triacetate; and lecithin.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (original): The chewing gum formulation of Claim 9 wherein the formulation includes an emulsifier.

Claim 13 (original): The chewing gum formulation of Claim 9 wherein the formulation includes an elastomer plasticizer.

Claim 14 (original): The chewing gum formulation of Claim 9 wherein structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules are salatrim.

Claim 15 (original): The chewing gum formulation of Claim 9 wherein the formulation includes lecithin.

Claim 16 (original): The chewing gum formulation of Claim 9 wherein the formulation includes mint oil.

Claim 17 (original): The chewing gum of Claim 9 wherein the flavor is chosen from the group consisting of mint and fruit.

Claim 18 (original): A method for creating chewing gum comprising the step of substituting for a typical plasticizer, softener, or emulsifier in a chewing gum formulation structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules.

Claim 19 (original): The method of Claim 18 wherein the structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules comprise approximately 0.01% to about 10% by weight of the chewing gum formulation.

Claim 20 (original): The method of Claim 18 wherein structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules are salatrim.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A method for reducing caloric content in a chewing gum formulation including fats/oils comprising the step of ~~using~~ substituting structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules in the formulation in a concentration of from about 0.1% to about 10% by weight in place of a portion of the fats/oils.

Claim 22 (original): The method of Claim 21 wherein structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules are salatrim.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A gum base comprising:
polyvinyl acetate;
an elastomer; and
at least about 0.02% to about 40% by weight structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules.

Claim 24 (original): The gum base of Claim 23 wherein the base is wax-free.

Claim 25 (original): The gum base of Claim 23 wherein the base is non-tacky.

Claim 26 (original): The gum base of Claim 23 wherein the base is a bubble gum-type base.

Claim 27 (original): The gum base of Claim 23 including at least one resin.

Claim 28 (original): The gum base of Claim 23 including at least one softener chosen from the group consisting of: tallow; hydrogenated tallow; hydrogenated and partially hydrogenated vegetable oils; cocoa butter; glycerol monostearate; glycerol triacetate; and lecithin.

Claim 29 (original): The gum base of Claim 23 wherein the structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules comprises not more than 40% by weight of the base.

Claim 30 (original): The gum base of Claim 23 wherein structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules are salatrim.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A chewing gum formulation comprising:
an insoluble gum base including polyvinyl acetate and an elastomer;
a water soluble portion;
a flavor; and
at least about 0.01% to about 10% by weight structured triacylglycerols that include short and long chain acyl triglyceride molecules.

Claim 32 (original): The chewing gum formulation of Claim 31 wherein the flavor is chosen from the group consisting of mint and fruit.